

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 9.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets (4 sheets)
 Replacement sheets (4 sheets)

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Office Action and prior art relied upon have been carefully considered. In an effort to expedite the prosecution, the previous claims have been cancelled and new claims 22-35 are presented for the Examiner's consideration. These claims are believed to be free of the objections and rejection under 35 USC 112 stated in paragraphs 3 and 7 of the Office Action.

A Substitute Abstract accompanies this amendment as required by the Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

With reference to informality pointed out in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, page 8 of the specification has been appropriately amended.

Regarding paragraphs 3 and 7, the term sealing strip is now used in the claims along with the term camming surface to be consistent with the description of items 28 and 29. Also, the corrugation questioned by the Examiner is shown in the drawings and has now been labeled as part 2a.

Drawing changes accompany this amendment as required in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Office Action.

The following comments address the rejections of the cancelled claims under 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a). The present independent claims have been restricted by including a handle attached to the closure element. In all the citations the handle is attached to the container, not the closure element. Although the Examiner asserts that Kensey discloses a handle, the handle is attached to the container (see figs 1, 3, 16) not the closure attachment. Further, although the Examiner asserts that Pool does not disclose a handle it actually does (fig 4 and 5), but like Kensey, the handle is attached to the container. The closure, lid and handle combination of this invention provide all the requirements of a paint can. The claimed approach is a less expensive arrangement than proposed in the prior art.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21854-00050-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: February 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Morris Liss/
Morris Liss

Registration No.: 24,510
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant

Attachments